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Professor O’Connor-Petruso

Reflection #2

How important is the literature review (and differentiating between various types of journals) and assessing prior research, theorist, and current instructional strategies?

Literature review is essential in the academic field. Journals are very selective in publishing any paper. A peer review allows people from the same field of expertise to analyze and validate the information provided in a paper.  When a paper receives a review, and is published it demonstrates that someone in the same field supported the research. If the world of academia did not have this process, literature created by academic researchers would not the same validity. "Using the impact factor alone to judge a journal is like using weight alone to judge a person's health. (Joint Committee on Quantitative Assessment of Research, 2008,p.2) "

In assessing the validity of papers it is less time consuming to search through journals because, the articles are already reviewed. It allows researchers to find information that has yet to be found. As a novice researcher it allows me to read papers that I know information has been looked over for any errors or gaps in the paper. When reading journals that have gone through a double-blind process, the reader is guaranteed that the information that they are reading does not have any biases. With a double-blind process, the reader is reassured that the reviewer and the author are completely unaware of each other’s names, making the validity of the article more important than a peer reviewed article.

There are both positive and negative effects of having a piece reviewed by another individual. By using such a selective method, journals prevent papers that might have important information in them to be published. Time plays a big factor when trying to publish a paper.  When publishing a new paper the author has to make sure that their research is up to date and that there is no one writing about the same contribution to the subject. Articles in newspapers are sometimes bias, and only tell one side of the story.  Those stories are usually just looked over through editors. The internet also has thousands of articles posted daily. Although, some of the stories are compelling and truthful, they are not scholarly articles. Since, the review standards are different they are set apart.

**References**

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